

1954

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Classification changed from
"CONFIDENTIAL" to "RESTRICTED"
by order of the Secretary of War
By /s/ E. Checket, Major, Inf.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) SS:
City and County of San Francisco)

HARRY (NMI) SLATER, JR., Sgt., AUS, AAF, ASN 39286722, Ring Gunner
CFC, age 21 years, address 1476 Forest Avenue, Pasadena, California, being
first sworn deposes and says:

I have completed the 12th Grade in school. I entered the military
service of the United States on 2 March 1943 at Arlington, California, was
sent overseas 3 May, 1945 and returned from overseas on 8 October 1945.

My plane, a B-29 Superfortress, was shot down in the Tokio area
on 25 May 1945 and I was captured and held in custody as a prisoner of war
by the Imperial Japanese Government at the following places: Kempri Hq.,
Tokio, Japan from 27 May 1945 to 15 August 1945; Omori, Japan from 15 August
1945 to 29 August 1945. I did not hold any special office or position in
any prisoner organization at any of my places of imprisonment. I do not
know the names of any Japanese military or civilian personnel in authority
at any of my places of imprisonment.

[A civilian we nicknamed "The Man in the Black Coat" appeared to be
in charge of all interrogation at Kempri Prison. He was approximately
5'6" tall, weighed about 150 lbs., was about 45 or 50 years of age, dark
hair and wore a small black goatee, mustache and glasses. He spoke excel-
lent English and interrogated most of the American prisoners personally.
Fifteen other American prisoners and myself were confined in a small wooden
cell approximately 7' x 10' at Kempri and were never allowed out of the
cell except during interrogation periods. On about the 1st or 2nd of June
1945 I was taken from the cell, blindfolded and handcuffed, and marched to
a small room in the same building for interrogation. I was pushed and
roughed up a bit while going to the interrogation room. On arrival there,
my blindfold and handcuffs were removed and I was forced to kneel in front
of "The Man in the Black Coat", who questioned me for approximately half
an hour regarding how our plane was shot down and where we were from. He
sat before me at a table and continually struck me on the head with a
large bamboo cane while asking questions. When he thought that I was lying
he would strike me with a great deal of force about the head and back.
I would estimate that I was struck with great force over 50 times during
the half-hour period. When the interrogator would tire of beating me, he
would hand the cane to an armed guard, who was the only other person in
the room, and the guard would proceed to beat me. At the end of this
period I was again blindfolded and handcuffed and returned to my cell.
I had many large welts on my back about 4 or 5 inches long which were
very painful. About half the men in the cell were subjected to the same
treatment.]

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RESTRICTED /s/ E. C.

/s/ H S Jr.

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 RESTRICTED /s/ E.C.

A cellmate, S/Sgt "Red" McQuade, a B-29 gunner from New Mexico, was in a great deal of pain as the result of severe burns on the back of his legs and rectum caused when his plane was shot down. McQuade was unable to stand or walk and his legs were discolored and the odor of the burned flesh was almost unbearable. We repeatedly requested medical attention for McQuade and on one occasion a Japanese doctor examined his injuries but he was never given any medical attention. On or about 28 June 1945, the Japanese guard told us that they would take McQuade out of the cell for medical treatment. Instead of being taken to a hospital, McQuade was forced to walk into the interrogation room and he later reported to us that he was questioned at some length and was slapped and stuck several times by the interrogators. We learned that two American prisoners in the cell next to ours had compound leg fractures but were never given any medical attention. Our food at Kempi consisted of 3 balls of steamed Korean rice per man per day. The balls of rice were approximately the size of the average fist. On rare occasions we received a small supply of cooked or uncooked vegetable greens and toward the end of our imprisonment we received a little thin soup. Each man received one small cup of water 3 times a day. We were issued 11 thin blankets for 16 men. The Japanese guards took away our shoes and socks and a great number of articles of clothing. We observed through our cell window that the pigs immediately outside the cell were furnished better food than the American prisoners. The latrine facilities in our cell consisted of a small block of cement about 3' x 4' with a hole in the center leading to the outside.

The following men were cellmates of mine in Kempi Prison:

Sgt. James Evans, B-29, CFC Gunner; home address, Box #1, Hanley, West Virginia.

Sgt. John Ryan, B-29, CFC Gunner; home state, Massachusetts.

Capt. Boyington, B-29 Pilot; home address Kalamazoo, Mich.

2nd Lt. William McCall, B-29 Co-pilot; home address, Chicago, Illinois.

I do not now recall the names of any enemy officer or personnel not heretofore mentioned who were immediately involved in this incident.

/s/ Harry Slater Jr.
 HARRY (NMI) SLATER, JR., Sgt
 ASN 39286722

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of October, 1945.

Interviewed by George G. Barker,
 Special Agent, SIC, 9 Oct. 1945

/s/ Charles E. Taylor
 Capt. JAGD.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

/s/ Everett Checket
 EVERETT CHECKET
 Major, Infantry

X X X X X X X X
 Restricted /s/ E.C.

No. 1008163
Ex 1954
Evidentiary

書類第六二六三号

「リ」(M)スローター、シニア軍曹米國陸軍航空部隊認識番号
三九二八七二二飛行機砲手 JFC

私、飛行機砲手として、東京地区一九四五年五月三十一日
撃墜された。ソノミテ私ハ日本官憲ニヨリテ捕合ト左記場所ニ
捕虜トシテ監禁サレタ。即チ一九四五年五月三十一日ヨリ一九四五年
八月十五日マデ日本東京憲兵司令部ニ、一九四五年八月十五日ヨリ
一九四五年八月二十九日マデ日本大森三監禁サレタ。

黒衣ノ人ト私達ガ呼ビテ民間人が憲兵監獄ニテ、訊問
セヨツテ居ル様ニ見エタ。

彼ハ立派ナ英語ヲ話シテ、アメリカ捕虜大司令ヲ直ニ訊問
シタ。他ノ十名ノアメリカ捕虜ト私ハ憲兵隊ガ約長サト呟囁
亡ルノ木造小利並房ニ監禁サレテ訊問時間以外外出ヲ許
サドカッタ。一九四五年六月一日カ二日頃目隠ヲセテ手錠ヲ附セ
テ監房ニ連レテ去リ訊問ノ為同ジ建物、中、小サイ部
屋ニ連テ行カレタ。其ノ訊問部屋ニ行ク途中幾ツカ
衝イタリ手荒ヲ取扱ラセタ。其處へ着クヤ私ノ目隠ヲ手錠
除カレ「黒衣ノ人」前ニ跪カレテ約半時間如何様ニ我達ノ
飛行機撃墜サレ何處カラ来タカラ尋ナラシタ。彼ハ私ノ前
ニ机ニ座ツテ居テ絶エテ訊問中私ノ頭ヲ大キイ竹ノ杖ヲ殴ツ
タ。私が強ク言ツテ止ルト思フツタ時ハ彼ハビドク頭ヤ背中

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ハッパ打ッデマッタ。私、是積リテ五十以上モ半時間、間打タ
シタ感ヒマス。彼、訊問亦が私ヲ打ッテ厭キタ時其ノ部屋ニ
居タ他、唯、一人アッタ。此様ニ多衛兵ニツノ杖ヲ渡シ其ノ衛
兵ハ私ヲ打タ始メルデマッタ。之が終ルト私ハ又目隠ヲサシ
手錠ヲ附テテ私ハ監房ニ歸サシタ。私ハ牢中ニ約四時カ
至時位ノミミジバシラ澤山ホネテソノが非常ニ痛マタ。
其ノ監房ノ約半数者ガ同様、取扱ヒラヌケタ。監房ノ仲
間デ东部隊軍曹「ミッドマックス」ト言フニ「メキニ」ト出身
ノB射手、彼飛行機ガ撃墜サシタ時受ケタ脚ノ重創ヤ
直腸ノ酷イ火傷、結果非常ニ苦ニダ「マックス」トハ「スッ
」トモホラトモホネテ、彼脚ノ変色ニテ火傷ノ肉ハ殆ド
壊レシタ程果カッタ。私達、幾度モ「マックス」ト、為ニ治療
ヲセマッタ。或ル時ハ、日本ノ医師ガ彼ノ傷ヲ看テ哭シタガ
何等治療ヲ加ヘ受ホカッタ。五年有テ日本ノ其頃
日本ノ衛兵ガ「マックス」ト治療、為ニ監房カニ連シ出スト
詔シタ病院ニ運テ行ケタ「マックス」トハ訊問部屋ニテ
イテ行カシタ。彼ハノ時相ニ時間訊問サシ數回ニ及テ訊問者
カテ手ヲ打。シタリ叩カシタト後ニ「マックス」トハ私達ニ知ラセタ
私達ハ隣ノ監房ノ二人「メキ」カ捕虜ハ脚ニ複雑骨折ヲ煩
ツテ居タガ決シテ何等ノ治療モ受ヘシカッタ事ヲ知マタ。
憲兵隊デテテシタ私達ノ食物ハ炊イタ朝鮮米、握飯
ヲ人ノ日令ニテ三箇デテマッタ。ソノ握飯ハ約普通ノ
奉仕人太サマッタ。

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稀ニ少量ノ料理ヲ又ハ生ノ野菜ヲ受ケタ。私達ノ虫獄
ガ近ヅク頃私達ハ少量ノ薄イ汁ヲ受ケタ。各人ハ一日三回ハ
サイコップニ一杯ノ水ヲ受ケタ。私達ハ十六人ニ對シテ一枚ノ薄
イ毛布ガ子ヘラシタ。日中人衛兵ハ私達ノ靴ヤ靴下ヤ衣類
ヲ持テ去リタ。私達ノ娯房ノ外並ウニヤタ豚ハアメリカ捕房ヨリ
良ク食物ヲ與ヘテ子母ニガ娯房ノ窓ヨリ通ニテ見ラシタ。
娯房内ノ便所ノ設備トニチハ小サイセメントノ造ラシタ長サ
四呎幅三呎位ノモノ真中ニ穴ガアツテ外部ニ通シテヤタ。

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